FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463.

Patricia Claucherty, Treasurer
Friends for A Democratic White House
PAC Inc.
9995 Cynthia Lane
Haslett, MI 48840

<u>ար 3 2001</u>

Identification Number:

C00363390

Reference:

30 Day Post-General Report (10/1/00-11/27/00)

Dear Ms. Claucherty:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Schedule A of your report (pertinent portion(s) attached) discloses a contribution(s) which appears to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(f) and 11 CFR §110.1(d) preclude a committee and its affiliates from receiving contributions from another political committee or person in excess of \$5,000 per calendar year.

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with the clarifying information. If the contribution(s) you received exceeded the limits, you must seek reattribution of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.1(k), transfer-out the amount in excess of \$5,000 to an account not used to influence federal elections or refund the excessive amount to the donor(s) in accordance with 11 CFR §103.3(b). In the best interest of your committee, all reattributions, transfers-out, and refunds should be made within sixty days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution(s). In order to protect the donor's interests, the Commission recommends that you inform the contributor(s) in writing to provide the donor(s) with the option of granting written authorization for a reattribution or transfer-out to another account or receiving a refund.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in

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writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the transfer-out or refund. In addition, any reattributions should be reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which the authorization for the reattribution is received. Any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of an excessive contribution(s), prompt action by your committee to seek reattribution, transfer-out or refund the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

-Line 11(a)(i) of the Detailed Summary Page of your report discloses a total of \$164,705 in "Contributions From Individuals/Persons Other Than Political Committees". The sum of the entries itemized on Schedule A, however, indicates the total to be \$157,700. Please amend your report to clarify the discrepancy.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

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- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-Your report discloses limited payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, rent, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Any such payments to a person aggregating in excess of \$200 in a calendar year must be disclosed on Schedule(s) B, supporting Line(s) 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(5) If these expenses are being paid by a connected organization, your Statement of Organization must be amended to reflect this relationship. 2 U.S.C. §433(b)(2) In addition, if expenses have been incurred but not paid in a reporting period, the activity should be disclosed as a debt on Schedule D, if the obligation is \$500 or more, or outstanding for sixty days or more. 11 CFR §104.11

Any goods or services provided to your committee by a person, except volunteer activity (i.e., a person's time), would be considered an in-kind contribution from that person, and would be subject to the disclosure requirements of 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3) and 11 CFR §104.13, and the limitations and prohibitions of 2 U.S.C. §§441a and 441b.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be disclosed <u>during</u> each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. Please verify that all expenses referenced above (i.e., rent, salaries, utilities, etc.) have been adequately disclosed. If these services have been provided by volunteers, please confirm this in writing.

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-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Federal Operating Expenditures should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions contained on the forms to determine the proper categorization when preparing your next filing.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Erik W. Koeppen Reports Analyst

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Reports Analysis Division

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